

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 7, line 9, replace the paragraph with the following:

Accordingly, in one aspect the invention provides an improved pearlescent paint composition comprising a film-former and a solids material comprising a pearlizing effective amount of a pearlizing compound, a hiding material and a pigment,

the improvement wherein said pigment is white and said hiding material is selected from the groups consisting of metals selected from particulate aluminum, zinc, copper, nickel, stainless steel and alloys thereof, and compounds selected from aluminum oxide, aluminum silicate, hydrated magnesium aluminum silicate, silica, mica, aluminum silicate, magnesium oxide, calcium carbonate, calcium sulphate, calcium metasilicate, anhydrous sodium potassium aluminum silicate, sodium aluminum silicate, alumina trihydrate and barium sulphate in, respective, effective hiding and whitening amounts.